

MUSIC

Beethoven's Life Notable Addition to Literature

Only Complete and Authoritative Record of Great German Master's Career, the Work of H. E. Krehbiel, New York Music Critic.

By W. J. HENDERSON.

IT was away back in 1854 that Alexander Wheelock Thayer, an American newspaper man, went to Europe, fired with an ambition to write the true life of Ludwig van Beethoven. The great master had been surrounded in his latter years by parasites eager to profit by the easy industry of creating legendary tales of his private life, his professional methods, his ideals and his idiosyncrasies. Thayer, who loved Beethoven's music, had looked into the records of his career so searchingly that even before he went to Europe he was convinced that Schindler and the rest had buried truth under a mass of error, not to say romance.

In time Thayer accepted the building of a correct biography of Beethoven as his life work. In 1856 he came to this country and through the aid of Dr. Lowell Mason obtained funds to return to Europe and pursue his task. Finally he obtained the post of United States Consul at Trieste, in which city he remained till his death in 1882.

The first volume of his life of Beethoven was published in Germany and in German in 1866, the second in 1872 and the third in 1879. Dr. Herman Deiters, court councillor at Bonn, the birthplace of Beethoven, edited Thayer's work and translated it into German. Thayer's three volumes did not finish the story of Beethoven's life.

Before the end of that tale was reached the indefatigable author reached the end of his own. Thayer died without completing his life work. But all his original materials, his mass of letters, notes and other items collected in his years of tireless research, had already been committed to the care of Dr. Deiters.

To return a little. Before Thayer went to Europe he had been on the staff of the New York Tribune. After he had taken up his residence abroad he continued to read his old paper, and one day he found something to interest him in an article by its new musical editor, Henry Edward Krehbiel. A correspondence between the two was begun and continued till Thayer's last days.

When the Consul's health began to fail and it seemed doubtful that he would ever be able to write the needed fourth volume of his work it was Mr. Krehbiel who devised a plan by which Novello, Ewer & Co., the English music publishers, hoped to relieve Thayer of part of his labor. But he declined the offer and struggled on alone.

When Thayer had passed away Dr. Deiters declared himself ready to revise the three published volumes and write the fourth. All of Thayer's papers had meanwhile been sent to his niece, Mrs. Jabez Fox of Cambridge, Mass. At her request Mr. Krehbiel sifted the mass of matter so that all that was useful could be sent back to Dr. Deiters. Also at Mrs. Fox's suggestion he undertook the task of preparing the English edition.

Dr. Deiters wrote two volumes instead of one as he had at first intended. He died before he had finished revising the advance sheets, and Dr. Hugo Riemann completed that work. The last volumes were published in 1910-11. From that time until about two years ago Mr. Krehbiel worked on the English edition. It was published in the volume on the fifth day of the present month by G. Schirmer & Co. It thus comes about that the only complete and authoritative life of Beethoven in the English tongue is the work of an American newspaper man and is printed by an American firm of music publishers.

Accepted the Responsibility.
It is casting no aspersions on publishers in general to say that none were inclined to undertake the printing of such a large work with the prospects of a limited audience. Whether Mr. Krehbiel's book would have seen the light at this time or not is uncertain, but at the moment when the outlook seemed darkest the musical profession itself honorably assumed the burden of responsibility. Music lovers are aware that the Beethoven Association was formed with Harold Bauer as president for the purpose primarily of performing the less known compositions of Beethoven, as well as his more famous ones, and that later the activities of the organization were extended to the works of other masters. The membership of the Beethoven Association comprised all the distinguished pianists, violinists, singers and other executive artists having their headquarters in New York. These members gave their services at the concerts without fees.

The happy result was that at the end of the first season there was a surplus of \$6,000. The members of the Beethoven Association unanimously voted to expend these profits (or as much as was necessary) in the publication of Thayer's life of Beethoven, as edited by Mr. Krehbiel. A critical review of such a monumental work would demand the genius of a Macaulay and a knowledge of the subject at least equal to that of Thayer, who devoted half a lifetime to it. Such a review is not to be thought of. The three volumes into which Mr. Krehbiel has compressed the materials of Thayer and Deiters are not a mere reproduction of the labors of these other men.

Work Not a Translation.
In his introduction Mr. Krehbiel informs us that this "is not a translation of the German work, but a presentation of the original manuscript, so far as the discarding of material after the writing did not mar its integrity, supplemented by the knowledge acquired since the publication of the first German edition and placed at the service of the present editor by the German revisers of the second edition."

"The editor of this English edition was not only in communication with Mr. Thayer during the last ten years of his life, but was associated to some extent with his continuator and translator, Dr. Deiters. Not only the fruits of the labors of the German editors, but the original manuscript of Thayer and the mass of material which he accumulated came into the hands of this writer, and they form the foundation on which the English Thayer's Beethoven rests."

"The work is vastly different from that which Thayer dreamed of when he first conceived the idea of bringing order and consistency into the fragmentary and highly colored accounts of the composer's life upon which he fed his mind and fancy as a student at college; but it is, even in that part of the story which he did not write, true to his conception of what Beethoven's biography should be."

What Thayer thought on this point we learn from his own words. Beethoven, the composer, was known to all the world. His music revealed his artist's soul in its complete beauty. But about Beethoven, the man, too

little was known and too much that was fanciful and misleading had been disseminated. Thayer set out to write the story of the man and to avoid all discussion of his music. Dr. Deiters and Dr. Riemann endeavored to preserve his line of development. Mr. Krehbiel has done it with fidelity and discrimination. The American completion of the Beethoven Association's biography of the immortal German composer can be contemplated with pride by the author, the publishers and its numerous godfathers and godmothers in the Beethoven Association.

Since Beethoven Died.
Nearly a century has passed since Beethoven died, and in all that time no biography deserving of consideration was written. Now we have one worthy to stand beside the "Life of Bach," by Dr. Philipp Spitta, and the "Life of Mozart," by Dr. Otto Jahn. If we American readers find a little secret pride in believing it to be even a degree better than either of these let us remember that there is a reason for the superiority beyond that to be sought in the capability of the authors.

The art of biographical investigation is somewhat further advanced than it was in the time of Spitta or Jahn, and Mr. Krehbiel's work is a masterpiece of the undertaking, but the volumes are convenient for the reader. The type is especially clear and grateful to the eye and the binding is simple and appropriate. Of course there is an index. It looks like a good one, but upon this point no verdict of any value can be pronounced till the biography has been some time in use as a work of reference.

In conclusion it may be said without exaggeration that this life of Beethoven is one of the most important contributions to the literature of music that has ever been made. Owing to the long and patient researches of Thayer and the masterly labors of his editors this biography at once and at the moment of its publication became the accepted and standard authority on the history of the great composer.

GALLI-CURCI IN CHICAGO.
On Tuesday night in Chicago Mrs. Galli-Curci will make her first appearance of the season with the Chicago Opera Association in "La Traviata," with Tito Schipa as Alfredo and Joseph Schwarz as Germont.



MISS GERALDINE FARRAR
IN "LA NAVARRAISE"
METROPOLITAN

MME. NINA TARASOVA
IN SONG RECITAL
CARNegie HALL

Friends of Music to Give Bach Programme at Concert

Harold Bauer to Be Among the Soloists—Albert Coates, Guest Conductor of Symphony Orchestra, to Arrive From Europe This Week.

THE Friends of Music will give a Bach programme this afternoon at Town Hall under the direction of Arthur Bodanzky. The soloists will be Harold Bauer, piano; Miss Lucille Taylor, soprano; Miss Marion Telva, contralto; George Meader, tenor; and William Gustafson, bass.

The chorus of the society will sing. The list consists of the Church Cantata, No. 102, "Herr, deine Augen sehen nach dem Glauben"; the D minor Piano Concerto and the "Coffee Cantata."

Albert Coates, who will visit this country for a period of ten weeks as guest conductor of the New York Symphony Orchestra, will arrive on board the Cedric this week. He will direct at his first pair of concerts in Carnegie Hall December 29 and 30 a programme comprising the overture to "The Master-singers," Tchaikovsky's fantasy-overture, "Romeo and Juliet," and "The Planets," a symphonic suite of Gustav Holst, first performance here.

Walter Damrosch, having turned over his baton as leader of the orchestra to Mr. Coates, will sail for England December 30 by the Olympic for a few weeks of rest in Europe. He, however, will away will conduct two concerts in London of the London Symphony Orchestra and one in Stockholm of the Stockholm Symphony Orchestra. He will resume his concerts here in March.

The Philharmonic Society will devote the coming fortnight to rehearsals, much of its work being preliminary study of the novelties, or compositions new at these concerts, to be presented before the end of Mr. Stravinsky's season on Sunday afternoon, January 29. Among these works are Gilbert's "Indian Sketches," "In the Courts of Pomegranates," by Whithorne; Ravel's "Balsade Espagnol" and Stravinsky's new version of the "Fire Bird" Suite, which was first produced for the first time at a Philharmonic concert on October 29, 1914.

Henry Hadley will conduct the next Philharmonic concert at Carnegie Hall, December 30, presenting Glazounov's Symphony No. 5 and the "Indian Sketches" of Gilbert. On the afternoon of New Year's Day Mr. Stravinsky will give an all Wagner programme with the Philharmonic Orchestra at Carnegie Hall.

Walter Damrosch will give the fourth and last of his explanatory recitals on Monday, December 27, at Carnegie Hall. His subject will be the entire third act of "Goettedaemmerung." For the benefit of the Municipal Music School at Rheims, France, Mr. Damrosch announces a new lecture-recital by himself to be given in Aeolian Hall, Wednesday afternoon, December 28, under the auspices of the Society of American Friends of Music in France, which attracts from the world of Wagner and Debussy will be his subject. Tickets for this recital, the entire receipts of which will be given to the fund, may be obtained at the office of the Symphony Society, Room 1202, Aeolian Hall, and at the box office, Aeolian Hall. Any further subscriptions to the fund may be sent to Mr. Blaine Beale, 157 East Seventy-fifth street.

On to-night's opera concert at the Metropolitan Alberto Salvi, harpist, as the guest artist, will play Zabel's Harp Concerto and a group of solos, Mme. Delaunoy will sing the Waltz Song from "La Boheme," Miss Sundelius, "Depuis le Jour"; Mr. Pettile, "O Paradiso" from "L'Africaine"; Mr. Chalmers, "Valentine's Isle" from "The Magic Flute," and Schumann's "Two Grenadiers." The orchestra, directed by Paul Elser, will play "Siegfried's Rhine Journey," Tchaikovsky's "Romeo and Juliet" fantasy and the overture of Johann Strauss's "The Bat."

As a tribute to the late Enrico Caruso, Maria Salvini offers twelve operatic scholarships during the course of the next five weeks. Candidates should write to the Caruso Scholarship Committee, 208 West Seventy-first street.

Alexander Siloti, Russian pianist, will return to this country shortly, after an absence of twenty-three years. He will open his American tour as the soloist with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra in St. Louis on January 6 and 7. He will give a recital here on Sunday afternoon, January 15, in Aeolian Hall.

Word has been received by the Metropolitan Musical Bureau that Pablo

Concert Calendar

TO-DAY.

Town Hall, 3, Friends of Music. Aeolian Hall, 3, Walter Damrosch. Wagner lecture-recital. Town Hall, 8:15, Antonio D'Annunzio's concert, with vocal and instrumental artists. Metropolitan Opera House, 8:30, concert by operatic singers and orchestra. Cooper Union Hall, 8:15, Miss Sophie Braslau, contralto, in a recital for People's Institute.

MONDAY.

Aeolian Hall, 8, Sam Palpatz, pianist. Aeolian Hall, 8:15, Trio Classique.

TUESDAY.

Carnegie Hall, 8:15, Philadelphia Orchestra. Town Hall, 8:30, Nina Tarasova, songs. Aeolian Hall, 8:15, organist and choir of Mount Holyoke College.

WEDNESDAY.

Carnegie Hall, 8:15, Moszkowski testimonial concert.

THURSDAY.

Auditorium of People's House, 7 East Fifteenth street, 8:15, Music Lovers' Symphony Orchestra.

FRIDAY.

Aeolian Hall, 8:15, Dimitri Dobkin, tenor.

SATURDAY.

Town Hall, 3, Richard Strauss and Mme. Elena Gerhardt, musicale. Carnegie Hall, 8:30, concert by Whithorne, Rosa, Shilsky and Choral Alliance.

Canals, cellist, has sailed on the Cedric and will arrive in New York this week. His first appearance will be at Aeolian Hall Saturday afternoon, January 7.

Through the efforts of Jacob Salzman, director of Seward Park Community Centre, who is assisted by Dillon Sholl, a recital of Verdi's "Il Trovatore."

Musical Programmes

At Picture Theatres.

A Christmas fantasy will be presented by the Capitol orchestra this week, Erno Rapee conducting, as an accompaniment to a series of religious tableaux representing the story of Christmas. Some of the Bach chorals, many of them more than 200 years old, have been arranged for the Capitol ensemble as part of the number. These will include "Come, All Ye Faithful" and various other well known chorals. Another feature will be a Moszkowski cycle, containing some of the most well known dance numbers of the Russian composer. The cycle, which will include the famous Spanish dances and Tarantella given by Alexander Oumansky, Mlle. Gambrell, Doris Niles, Thalia Zanon and the Capitol ballet corps, is presented to interest music lovers in the welfare of the composer, who is at the present time ill and destitute in Paris. There will also be an interpolated vocal accompaniment by the Capitol mixed quartet, with lyrics by Martha Wickinsky. The Capitol ballet corps will also be seen in a wooden shoe dance given as a prelude to Hy Mayer's travesty on "Volendin." A Christmas greeting will open the programme, delivered by little Miss Alida Armand, 9 years old.

The music programme for the Rivoli cinema with the overture to Verdi's "La Forza del Destino," played by the orchestra under the direction of Frederick Stalberg and Emanuel Baer. Edward MacDowell's "To a Wild Rose" is sung as a duet by Betty Anderson, soprano, and Fred Jager, tenor, and Willy Stahl, concertmaster of the Rivoli orchestra, will play his own "Serenade" as a solo.

The music programme of the Rivoli will have as one of its principal numbers a combination of America reproducing piano and the orchestra with Hugo Rosenfield and Joseph Alexander conducting. The selection will be the first movement of Peter Tchaikovsky's concerto, Henry Souvaine being the invisible soloist. Grace Hoffman, soprano, will sing Johann Strauss's "Visions of Spring" as the vocal selection of the programme.

Liszt's "Sixth Hungarian Rhapsody," with a special cymbal obbligato by Bela Nyary, will be played by the Strand orchestra as the overture, conducted by Carl Edwards. In the programme to feature the musical vocalists will be Richard Bold, tenor, and Joseph Martel, baritone, assisted by an ensemble, Estelle Carey, Canadian soprano, will also be heard. The organ solo will be supplied by Percy J. Starnes and Ralph S. Bralnard.

"In a Doll Shop," with Mme. Victoria Krieger, prima ballerina of the Moscow Grand Opera in the star role of a Fairy Doll, is the brilliant stage production with which the entertainment opens at the Criterion.

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months ago with her father. Last winter she spent some time in New York with her grandaunt, Mrs. Alexander, who gave a dance for her. She is a granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Burton Harrison of this city and Washington, a grandniece of Mr. William Crocker of San Francisco and a niece of Mrs. Malcolm C. Whitman and Mr. Charles Templeton Crocker.

Another interesting engagement announced last week is that of Miss Susan Scott, daughter of Mr. Walter Scott of Pelham Manor, N. Y., to Mr. Skeffington Sanxay Norton, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Skeffington S. Norton of Jericho, L. I. The announcement was made at a dinner given by Mrs. Scott at the Hotel Plaza. Miss Scott attended Rosemary Hall, Greenwich, Conn. Mr. Norton is a graduate of Yale and during the war served in the Trenchard Training Corps of Yale. No date has been set for the wedding.

Mr. and Mrs. John Lee Mahin of 875 Park avenue have just announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Marian Mahin, to Mr. Charles True Adams, son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Adams of Chicago. This is the second engagement in the Mahin family this season. Their elder daughter, Miss Margaret Mahin, is engaged to Mr. John Reynolds Hammett, son of Mrs. H. D. Hammett of this city, and was married a few days ago, when she went to serve as a bridesmaid for Miss Elizabeth Stone, daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. John Timothy Stone, whose marriage will take place on Tuesday.

One time Gov. and Mrs. M. Linn Bruce have announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss May Hunting Bruce, to Mr. Merritt Corbett Stuart, son of Mr. John L. Stuart of Corbett, N. Y. Miss Bruce is a member of the class of '22 of Vassar College. Mr. Stuart was graduated from Amherst in 1912.

Mrs. Edgar Francis Farmer of New Rochelle has announced the engagement of her daughter, Miss Catherine Farmer, to Mr. Carr Thomas of 45 East Sixty-second street. Mr. Thomas was graduated from Yale in 1919 and served overseas for eighteen months with the Twelfth Field Artillery, Second Division. He received from the French Government the Croix de Guerre and was also awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

Mr. and Mrs. George Massena Ballou, of Park Hill, Yorkers, have made formal announcement of the engagement of their daughter, Miss Clifton Idell Ballou, to Mr. Francis E. Quick of Newton Center, Mass. Mr. Quick is a graduate of Cornell, class of '19, and is in the Naval Aviation Corps during the war.

From Chicago comes the announcement of the engagement of Miss Louise Kimball of Chicago to Mr. John W. Wilder of that city, to Mr. Robert Nelson Landreth, son of Dr. Olin Henry Landreth of New York. No date has been set for the wedding.

Another engagement in which Chicago figures is that of Miss Rebecca McDoel

to Mr. Philip Henry English of New York.

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people's not only includes the people of the United States and England, but also the English speaking people of Canada, Australia and New Zealand, which are regarded as distinct units more or less.

In addition to the competition for a symbolic design the English Speaking Union intends to adopt a motto or slogan expressing its spirit and purpose. Brevity, clarity, imaginative appeal, memory value, breadth of wording and aptness to avoid criticism on the score of Anglophobia are its essential characteristics, and in addition it is to be thoroughly American in its implication. All drawings, etc., must be delivered to the Architectural League of New York, 215 West Fifty-seventh street, on or before January 15, 1922.

The San Francisco Museum of Art opened on November 20 a retrospective exhibition of etchings by Cadwallader Washburn, and an enthusiastic Western critic writes of the event as follows:

"The retrospective collection of etchings by Cadwallader Washburn demonstrates the supremacy of American graphic art as have very few exhibitions held in this country in many years. Since the death of Whistler, Cadwallader Washburn has been regarded by a degree only possible in great art as the most discriminating connoisseur of etching as America's foremost exponent of this very difficult medium of artistic expression. The collection which was placed on exhibition this week constitutes Washburn's whole opus as an etcher. It comprises the astonishing number of somewhat over 500 prints covering his entire output since he began to etch, some twenty years ago down to and including impressions of his last plates executed during his recent illness. The collection is a series of unique prints from plates that have been destroyed and never before exhibited in any exhibition, thus affording the first real opportunity to study the whole development of this many-sided, versatile artist."

"In the diversity of subject and treatment Cadwallader Washburn is a strong rival of Whistler, with whom he is often being compared. His etchings, sojourns in foreign lands have resulted in masterpieces that reflect the character and spirit of the countries visited to a degree only possible in great art. A new and revealing light is thrown upon the life and customs of Japan, Italy, Mexico and India in the notable series of plates devoted to an interpretation of the spirit of these countries by Washburn, not to speak of the idyllic charm of his New England and New Jersey series and the noble simplicity of his California series, in which he reveals the same unerring eye for pictorial possibilities as is to be found in his souvenirs of the romantic spots of the Old World."

"In these portraits of places as well as portraits of people, of strange and interesting characters, of landscapes and glorious bits of architecture, is recorded the reaction of one of the richest nature of the spirit of the country. As in the case of the J. Pierpont Morgan collection of Rembrandt's etchings exhibited in this museum recently, the installation of the Cadwallader Washburn collection follows a chronological order that makes possible a complete survey of his whole development. The collection fills seven galleries and is being shown in conjunction with a selected exhibition of American Applied Arts by the foremost craftsmen throughout the country, including several of the local handicraft workers."

The Birch Burdette Long sketch competition of 1921 for sketches of an architectural character, has just been judged.

Hickman, daughter of Mrs. William Remond Kenly of that city, to Mr. Walter Frothingham Wyman, son of the late Edward Wyman and Mrs. Wyman of 152 West Fifty-eighth street. No date has been set for the wedding.

Mr. and Mrs. William Brewster Morrison of Auburn, N. Y., have announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Katherine Stillman Morrison, to Mr. Calvin Burr, son of Mrs. Mabel Hayden Burr of New York. Mr. Burr is a grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Burr of Auburn, N. Y.

Announcement has been made by Mr. and Mrs. M. K. Neville of Brooklyn of the engagement of their daughter, Miss Mary V. Neville, to Mr. John M. Blake, Assistant United States Attorney for New York. Miss Neville is a graduate of the Visitation Convent in Brooklyn and has been active in Catholic affairs. Mr. Blake was graduated from George Washington College with the class of '16 and later from the law school of Fordham University. During the war he was a lieutenant in infantry.

Formal announcement has been made of the engagement of Miss Katherine Hayward Hyman, daughter of Mrs. Thomas J. Hyman of 105 Morangefield Little, to Mr. William Barclay Kerr, son of Mrs. William Barclay Kerr of East Orange, N. J. Mr. Kerr was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1912 and during the war was a lieutenant in the navy on the transport President Grant.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Clinton Van Cleef of 45 Livingston street, Brooklyn, have announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Lois Van Cleef, to Mr. Kenneth Harrison Fairchild, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Harrison Fairchild of Saratoga Springs, N. Y. Mr. Van Cleef attended school in Lausanne, Switzerland, and finished his education at the Brooklyn Heights Seminary, graduating with the class of 1920.

Mrs. William J. Howard of 259 Jefferson avenue, Brooklyn, announces the engagement of her daughter, Miss Genevieve Beatrice Howard, to Mr. Arthur Howard, son of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Howard and a member of the Alpha Alpha Sorority and a graduate of Erasmus Hall.

Miss Dorothy Britton Longman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James S. Longman of 14 East Sixtieth street, will be married on Wednesday evening in St. Bartholomew's Church to Mr. Stuart English Kimball, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Kimball of Hood River, Ore. The ceremony will be performed at 8:30 o'clock by the rector, the Rev. Dr. Leighton Park, assisted by the Rev. Mr. William J. Howard, rector of St. Philip's Church, Brooklyn. A reception will follow at the Hotel Gotham. Miss Longman will be attended by her sister-in-law, Mrs. John J. Howard, Miss Jean Whiting and Miss Matilda Rapelle Smith.

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